

[24th August 1955]

MR. CHAIRMAN :—“ The question is—
‘ That the Madras Marumakkathayam (Removal of Doubts) Bill, 1955 (L.A. Bill No. 12 of 1955), as passed by the Assembly, be passed.’ ”

The motion was carried and the Bill was passed.

VII.—ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE HON. THE CHAIRMAN.

MR. CHAIRMAN :—“ I wish to announce to the House that under rule 190 of the Madras Legislative Council Rules, a copy of the amendment made to the Madras Legislative Council Rules, and which was passed by this House to-day, has been signed by me.”

VIII.—DRAFT SECOND FIVE-YEAR PLAN FOR THE
STATE OF MADRAS.

* THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—“ Sir, I move—
‘ That the Draft Second Five-Year Plan for the State of Madras be taken into consideration.’ ”

“ The question of the Second Five-Year Plan for Madras State has been under the active consideration of Government for about six months and certain papers prepared by the Planning Commission's Panel of Economists, the Central Statistical Organization and the Indian Statistical Institute as well as the Preliminary Draft Proposals for the Plan sent to the Planning Commission have been circulated to the Members of the Legislature already. The First Five-Year Plan was largely determined by the conditions prevailing at the time it was framed and its principal objectives were to make India largely self-sufficient in food and to hold inflationary tendencies in check. It may be said that there has been a considerable measure of success in achieving these objectives; but there are various aspects of development on which adequate attention could not be laid in that Plan. The Second Five-Year Plan will essentially be a people's Plan reflecting their needs and aspirations and it is with this end in view that the Government have taken up the preparation of District Plans. These Plans will provide for the elementary requirements of the villagers in the matter of primary education, medical help, drinking water-supply, communications, agricultural facilities and village co-operatives. The Plans evolved at the State level have been designed to secure a balanced development for the State keeping in view the various targets proposed for the whole of India in regard to increase in production in different fields and the expansion of social services, in order to bring about a 25 per cent increase in national income and to provide employment opportunities for about 11 to 12 million persons. An analysis of the expenditure proposed for various sectors of development has been made in paragraph 9 of the ‘ Paper placed on the table of the House ’ yesterday and the figures will show the greater emphasis to be given during the Second Five-Year Plan period to small scale and

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village industries, development of communications, housing and other social services such as education, health, welfare of Backward classes, etc. In spite of this shift in emphasis, the actual expenditure proposed on irrigation and power projects is nearly double the expenditure on such projects during the First Five-Year Plan period while the expenditure proposed on agriculture, forests, animal husbandry, dairying and milk supply, fisheries and co-operation is over 42 crores as against the expenditure of nearly Rs. 11 crores during the First Plan period. The schemes will ensure a 15 per cent increase in the production of cereals in the State and a much larger increase in the production of protective foods such as milk, eggs, fish, vegetables and fruits. The various schemes under village industries have been designed to increase employment opportunities to the maximum extent possible in the country side.

"The preliminary Draft Proposals were discussed with the Planning Commission on the 12th and 13th of August and though no final decisions have yet been communicated to this Government in regard to the actual size of the Plan, it is expected that the Planning Commission would give its approval to an expenditure of the order of Rs. 200 to Rs. 225 crores over the five-year period on schemes included in the Plan. As indicated in the paper circulated yesterday, a Plan of the size of Rs. 225 crores for Madras would be quite realistic and well within the capacity of the State to implement. Whatever decision may be taken in regard to the actual size of the Plan, it will be exclusive of the expenditure on large and medium-scale industries the development of which will be undertaken directly by the Government of India on an All-India basis. The Planning Commission has indicated that the various schemes proposed by the Madras Government under this head would receive careful consideration before final decisions are taken in regard to the location of the industries concerned. Excluding heavy and medium-scale industries, the expenditure proposed in the Preliminary Draft Proposals for the Madras Plan would be of the order of Rs. 350 crores. It is hoped that the reduction of this figure to something between Rs. 200 and 225 crores can be brought about without omitting any of the more important schemes, by phasing the expenditure on them over a longer period. For instance, though the allotment for minor irrigation works and soil conservation works will be reduced, care will be taken to see that the reduced allotments are sufficient to cover the expenditure on the more urgent works. Similarly, a reduction in the expenditure on small-scale and cottage industries will be effected by reducing the number of units to be organized under the various schemes and it would be possible to ensure that no industry is neglected in any area if there are special facilities to develop it. Though the overall size of the Plan will be reduced, the relative importance given to different sectors of development in the Preliminary Draft Proposals will be maintained. It is expected that the Planning Commission will agree to an expenditure of the order of Rs. 75 to 80 crores on irrigation and power

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projects. This may make it necessary for some of the least remunerative irrigation schemes proposed already to be postponed to the Third Plan period; but a token provision for projects which will benefit both the Madras and Travancore-Cochin States will be retained. As explained in the Preliminary Draft Proposals, one of these schemes, viz., the Parambikulam-Uppar-Aliyar Project is essentially a proposal to utilize the Madras waters as the bulk of the catchment area of the streams the waters of which are to be tapped lies in the Madras State. The scheme is capable of providing dry-crop irrigation for an extent of 2 lakhs of acres and it should be possible to take it up during the Second Plan period. The views of the Members of the Legislature will be borne in mind and when the Plans are revised so as to reduce the overall cost to the figure that may be accepted by the Planning Commission."

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" Motion moved—

' That the Draft Second Five-Year Plan for the State of Madras be taken into consideration.' "

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* SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON :—" Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am performing a very unpleasant duty which I am compelled to. We, the Members both in this House and in the other House, coming from Malabar including my hon. Friends Sri Gopalan and Sri Ummer Koya, submitted a memorandum to the Hon. Chief Minister regarding this Second Five-Year Plan as it applied to the district of Malabar. In that Memorandum we have stated that on the 14th August 1955, the District Planning Body had a meeting at Kozhikode; the Body consisted of representatives from Malabar in the Legislature here and Parliament and also important Heads of Departments and other officials and non-officials. There in that Memorandum we had given our unanimous decision with regard to the demands of the district to be included in the Second Five-Year Plan. We had also stated in the Memorandum that that was the recommendation of the District Planning Body as approved by the members of the Legislature and that that may be accepted in respect of the district. That has not been done.

" Therefore, Sir, I may say that we have lost faith in the Government doing justice to the district. If it is proved otherwise, I will be very thankful. Only the other day, it was stated that the interests of Malabar would be looked after even though there was no member from Malabar on the Treasury Bench. But after seeing the Draft Plan we have decided not to participate in the discussions on the Five-Year Plan as such. Therefore, with regret, I have to withdraw from this discussion. I may assure you, Sir, it is not any want of respect to you or to the august House. Therefore, with due respect to you and to the House, I am withdrawing from the House to show the protest which my district has got against the attitude of this Government in the matter of development of our district. With your permission, Sir, I am withdrawing.

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(After making this statement, Sri M. P. Govinda Menon walked out of the House.)

* SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—“ Mr. Chairman, Sir, in initiating the discussion on the Second Five-Year Plan of the State, I should like to congratulate the Government first on the success of the State loan recently floated. I recall the challenge which I made on the floor of this House when my hon. Friend Mr. Chakkarai Chetty expressed a doubt about the success of the loan. I am glad that the loan has been oversubscribed testifying to the confidence which the people have in the Government of the day.

“ Sir, the Second Five-Year Plan is essentially a plan for the villagers, and hon. Members will be glad that as stated by the Hon. Leader of the House just now, the elementary requirements of the villagers, namely, schools, water-supply, medical health, communication, etc., have been provided for under the Plan for all villages. It is a matter for congratulation that the peoples' representatives have been associated in the preparation of the District Plans. I should state in this connexion that certain reports have been received that Harijans have been excluded from the village committees in certain quarters and if I refer to this here, it is in the hope that the Government would issue instructions to the Collectors of the districts concerned to rectify such defects in the constitution of the village committees wherever it is brought to their notice.

“ The preliminary draft proposals for the State based on the recommendations of the district committees and heads of departments involve an expenditure of about Rs. 400 crores. It would be a matter for regret if the total cost of the schemes should be cut down to half the amount as has been shown in the White Paper and as stated by the Hon. Minister just now. I would therefore urge that our State Government should stress our case for better treatment, in view of the facts stated by the Hon. Finance Minister the other day that this is one of the heaviest taxed States and the people expect an adequate return for the taxes that they pay. As I said in the debate on the Governor's Address, the people's enthusiasm has been roused in the village areas by propaganda conducted by the representatives of the people and high hopes have been roused and it should not be damped by curtailment of any of the Plan proposals.

(At this stage the Deputy Chairman occupied the Chair.)

“ In the White Paper it is stated that most of the irrigation projects may be cut down, because they would be expensive. This should not be; especially in view of the great need for increase in food production, the irrigation projects should be pushed through. At the same time it is a matter for congratulation, it

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is a matter to be welcomed that the power projects are proposed to be retained and the benefits thereof would be spread to all the villages in the State. The State stands foremost in the progress of rural electrification and a factory for manufacture of electrical goods should be located in this State. I trust all sections in this House would endorse the endeavours of the State Government to get a Government electrical factory located in this State.

"It is pleasing to note that the draft proposals cover a large field of agricultural development. Under 'education' provision is proposed for the revision of scales of pay of teachers. It is hoped that the teachers will have substantial benefits by the provision now proposed to be made in the Second Five-Year Plan. As suggested by the teachers' representatives in this House, I hope the pension scheme for teachers would be extended to secondary school teachers as well. The Plan proposals envisage improvement of school libraries, 540 in number. It is a matter for regret that establishment of rural libraries has not been thought of. The Local Library Authorities are not able to make much headway for financial reasons. I for one fondly hoped for a substantial scheme to be included in the Second Plan for development of libraries in rural areas. This should receive the attention of the Government.

"Art and architecture need encouragement. I am glad that the Hon. Minister for Agriculture has put forward a scheme for the establishment of a school of sculpture at Mahabalipuram. The problem of renovation of temples in our State, these glories of our ancient architecture, should be effectively tackled. Only the other day at Poonamallee, our popular Governor Shri Sri Prakasa said that 'the spiritual, social and cultural life of the people in our country is closely associated with our great shrines'. Some of them are now in disrepair; some are in a state of ruin. The Andhra State, it is seen, are tackling this problem and a list of all such temples in our State also which need urgent repairs should be drawn up and a scheme at State level should be prepared for conservation and renovation of our temples. This should find a place in the Second Five-Year Plan and I am sure that my hon. Friend, Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai, will support me in this. I would also suggest, Sir, the constitution of a Consulting Board of Oriental Architecture and Archæology consisting of non-official experts, representatives of Legislature, etc., to tackle and implement these proposals. That should be incorporated in the Second Five-Year Plan.

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"The Chingleput district has no irrigation projects. Repeated suggestions have been made for the introduction of a few irrigation schemes. I have been pressing for improvements to the Tenneri tank and Semrambakkam tank, but it is seen that no provision has been made for these schemes in the Plan. Estimates are stated to be ready for these schemes and I would urge that these should be included for execution in the Plan period in the first year itself.

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"The Hon. Minister for Public Health, Sri A. B. Shetty, while inaugurating the Wild Life Day at the Rajaji Hall last month spoke in glorious terms about the existence of a Birds' Sanctuary at Vedanthangal, about 47 miles south of Madras, but I wish to bring to the notice of the House that the place is in a deplorable state. The village has not even a good road to reach. Every year, after the rainy season, thousands of aquatic birds, different kinds of birds, come to this place to breed on the trees of a lake-like pond. It is a sight for the Gods to see the different kinds of birds assembled there. Such places should be improved and may I not hope that the Second Five-Year Plan should scrape a few thousands of rupees for such aesthetic purposes?

"The District Plan is ready for the Chingleput district. The Plans for village development, major panchayats and municipalities have been drawn up within the financial limits indicated by the Government. The Chingleput Plan also provides for a 'scheme of unemployment insurance' in view of the fact that labour is without employment for at least four months in a year in the rural parts. The scheme provides also that during the period of unemployment, labour will be paid in grain about half the rate of normal wage for work done in connexion with development schemes. The Chingleput Plan provides that all cultivators in the village should make a contribution in grain according to the size of their holdings so that a reserve of food supply may be made available to actual workers engaged in village schemes. The people have come forward enthusiastically to plan and work out these schemes in villages and urban areas as well and I confidently hope that the Plan works would be started immediately so that when the allotment is made next year, we would have completed the preliminaries and be ready in a fair way to work up those schemes successfully.

"Lastly, I hope and pray that the Second Plan would open out possibilities for peace, prosperity and progress."

* SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY:—"Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am really glad that our country is to have a Second Five-Year Plan with a view to improving our position all round. I note with satisfaction that our Madras Government have provided about Rs. 394 crores for this purpose. (The Hon. Sri C. Subramaniam: 'We have not provided but only proposed.') I stand corrected, Sir. Of course, we are told that there may be a need to cut down this figure to about Rs. 225 crores excluding the expenditure on major industries, the Neyveli Project and other things. Usually our Madras Government are spending about 20 per cent of the general revenues on education. But under the Second Five-Year Plan, they have provided for education only about Rs. 38 crores, barely 10 per cent of the proposed Rs. 394 crores. Out of this Rs. 38 crores, the Government have proposed to spend a little less than Rs. 5 crores for increasing the salaries of the teachers, which works out to about 1/8th or early 12½ per cent.

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“ Now, the question of revenue expenditure and capital expenditure naturally arises and there may be a question that even if some provision is made for payment of the teachers' salaries under the Second Five-Year Plan, the State must be able to bear it as a recurring expenditure. I speak only with reference to the present generation of teachers and with the fond hope that there would be a third or fourth Five-Year Plan because India is on the threshold of march towards economic freedom. Now, originally it was thought that about Rs. 1,000 crores would be spent for the whole of our country on education. Then, there came a statement that this sum of Rs. 1,000 crores would be cut down to Rs. 500 crores, that is by 50 per cent. Leaders and authorities gathered and thought that many of the items under education should be proportionately cut down. Of course, that was a blow to the country as a whole. Whatever need there may be for curtailing the expenditure under other spheres, need ought not to have been felt for the curtailment of expenditure under education, because, as I have already pointed out on the floor of this sacred House, it is only education that will sustain the development that is contemplated under the other spheres. Now, because the total provision for the whole of our country had to be cut to about Rs. 500 crores (Rs. 450 crores under general education and Rs. 50 crores under technical education), they began to lower the pace of advancement of primary education, secondary education and so on. Suddenly we saw a statement in the press that the salaries of teachers were also to be curtailed. Originally, the proposal was that even the lowest qualified teacher should get not less than Rs. 50 as basic salary. There were decent scales of pay. Of course, one cannot call them as attractive scales of pay. The lowest qualified teacher was to get Rs. 50, the matriculate teacher was to start on Rs. 70, the under-graduate teacher was to start on Rs. 100, the graduate teacher was to start on Rs. 150 and the headmaster was to get between Rs. 250 and Rs. 500. These were the scales of pay provided for by the original planners. Then, we noticed statements in the press that the salaries were to be cut and fixed at Rs. 40 and Rs. 50 and that teachers were to get Rs. 40 plus Rs. 16 and Rs. 50 plus Rs. 16. This was a statement made at an All-India level. Of course, that may not have cent per cent relevancy to the affairs obtaining in our State; but somehow or other this had some effect in our State also and in our Plan it is stated that each teacher is to get an increase of only Rs. 10, that is, a teacher getting Rs. 30 per mensem will get Rs. 40, the teacher getting Rs. 40 will get Rs. 50 and so on. There is a disparity in salaries of the same category of teachers there also. There is again a statement that this sum of Rs. 10 is not going to be given to the teacher in the first year of the Second Five-Year Plan, that is during 1956-57, but that it is going to be divided into five instalments of Rs. 2 each, one-fifth of the increase being allowed each year. Of course, it is stated that the teacher is to get this sum of Rs. 2 in addition to his usual increment, but there is a fear among the teachers whether the mistake that was committed

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in 1947 at the time of the general revision of pay scales would be repeated this time also. There, when fixing the new scale of pay, they were given one or two increments and were fitted into the new scale of pay. If it is the intention of the Government to do like that, many of the senior teachers would not get the benefit of even this Rs. 10 contemplated by the Government. My request on the floor of the House has always been to see that the Government give certain things over and above what the teachers have been getting on the particular day on which the increment is announced. This offered increase of Rs. 10 must be got in one instalment by every teacher over and above what he gets on the 1st April 1956. Now let us see whether it is possible for this Government to allot only Rs. 10 for a teacher. We find in the Five-Year Plan a provision of Rs. 443 lakhs in respect of the Rs. 10 increment that is to be given to all the elementary school teachers in this State. With regard to secondary education, we do not find any explanatory note. We find the figure of Rs. 63 lakhs. This amount is to be given over a period of five years in the Second Five-Year Plan. This means about Rs. 12 lakhs for each year of the Second Five-Year Plan. I tried and tried to divide this amount equally among all the secondary school teachers, only to find that it would not be possible to give the promised figure of Rs. 10 to all these teachers. I do not know whether the Government are going to enlarge this figure to see that all the teachers in the secondary schools including headmasters get this amount. Let us see whether Government can provide only Rs. 5 crores for salaries of teachers out of the Rs. 38 crores. The Government's proposal is for allotting Rs. 38 crores under Education. Is it possible only to spend Rs. 5 crores for giving an increase in the salaries of teachers? Have not the Central Government and the authorities connected with it and so many other bodies connected with all-India education expressed time and again that but for a living wage for the teacher, education cannot improve? Have not they time and again pointed out that it would be the first duty of the Government to see that teachers got a living wage under the Second Five-Year Plan? Is it not a fact that promises were held out again and again that the level of the ordinary man would rise up during the period of the Second Five-Year Plan, and the teacher also, as a citizen, could have his salvation then? What is it that has suddenly brought upon the Government this idea that because certain figures are to be cut at the all-India level, the teacher should have his salary cut? Really if it is a question of a person already getting anything over a living wage being subjected to a cut the matter is understandable. But the teacher has been waiting for a living wage so long and for the Second Five-Year Plan to get his salvation. The original proposals by the framers of the Plan for fixing the salaries of teachers were that a teacher was to be given a living wage of Rs. 50—the lowest qualified teacher, a Matriculate should start on Rs. 70, a Graduate should start on Rs. 150, and a Headmaster should start on Rs. 250. Let us see how this figure works out. If we work out the figures according

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to these scales originally sanctioned by the framers of the Plan at the all-India level, we find that it is only a question of recurring expenditure of a little over Rs. 3 crores per year for our State or for the total period of the Second Five-Year Plan, it would be about Rs. 16 crores. Cannot the Government provide these Rs. 16 crores out of the Rs. 38 crores which they have proposed to spend on education? Let us see how they propose to spend this Rs. 38 crores on education. Hon. Members will be wonderstruck to hear that the teachers have to get a little less than Rs. 5 crores but children are to get Rs. 3.51 crores for purchase of books and slates. We know how valuable these books and slates are to children, how they use them, how long these books and slates will last, and whether it is really necessary for the children to use books and slates. We should consider whether the memory of children could be cultivated without the use of these books and slates as in olden days. Is it necessary for the Government to make a huge provision of Rs. 3.51 crores for the purchase of slates and books by children? Then there is a provision of Rs. 14.4 crores for the opening of additional classes. This means paying additional teachers. This again means the opening of more schools. As it is I can say that even at the all-India level there is no policy on education in respect of primary schools. The Centre as well as the States have always proclaimed that basic education is their policy, but what makes them delay the implementation of it? That is the question that I ask. If really they think that any reorganization should begin from the bottom, if really they think that the economic Swaraj for which we are striving can be achieved only through education, and if they think that the higher stages of education cannot be reorganized completely without the foundation of the basic education at the primary stage, they should come forward at least during the Second Five-year Plan to just reorganize all the primary schools in the whole of India, and especially within our State, into basic schools. What is the difficulty that the Government have been experiencing with respect to this affair? When the Central Government said that there would be a cut in the over-all provision, it was also stated that the number of schools to be converted into basic schools would be comparatively lower. I think this is reflected in our plans also. What trouble is there in converting all these primary schools into basic schools overnight? Cannot they be converted overnight? Cannot the present teachers adapt themselves to the basic pattern with a short re-training in one summer vacation? Any parent will easily be able to find that all that is taught in the schools, especially in the lowest classes, is not all-useful and is not all-necessary. There are many things which can be avoided. There are many things that are repeated again and again. There are many things that the parent can teach at home, fully realizing his responsibility. If all these unnecessary things are taken out of the school curriculum, naturally there would not be any need for teaching in the elementary school for more than two hours a day. If this fact is recognized, combined with the fact

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that the child's rapt attention also cannot last for more than two hours, we will see that the present schools would be fully sufficient to meet the demand of all the school-going children. Speaking from facts, I say that 45 to 50 per cent of the school-going children throughout India are in schools. It is only a question of getting the other 50 per cent. If the present schools will be able to take in those children, according to the shift system of $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours or 2 hours per day, the problem will be solved, and the need for provision of Rs. 14.4 crores for the expansion of education in the Second Five-Year Plan period will not arise at all. Let us see if this Rs. 14.4 crores is going to be usefully spent in the Second Five-Year Plan period. What is the content of education? The children are taught about Eskimos, about things unrelated to life and arithmetic unrelated to daily transactions. They are taught things unconnected with our everyday life. They are taught history that creates disunity among us. That is all the content of education. To spend Rs. 14 crores of the taxpayers' money in the Second Five-Year Plan period on the expansion of this type of education is therefore a sheer waste. With regard to the training of teachers, there is a provision of Rs. 2.45 crores. If all the present teachers are simply requested to undergo re-training during the next summer vacation to adapt themselves to the $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours Basic school work, the problem can be solved without this expenditure of so many crores of rupees. Rs. 2.45 crores has been allotted for the supply of midday meals. We try to imitate the West in certain matters. Perhaps pure bottled milk may be supplied in England and America to children during midday. But could we imitate them? According to the Post-War Reconstruction plan, a packet of sambar bath was given to each child at midday. No provision was made for supplying drinking water to the children in places where food was ordered to be supplied. The scheme was a failure. How far is it necessary to provide midday meals to children in schools? We find parents just sending their children bellyful to the schools. There may be cases of two or three children who may be starving for one or two days. That will go to show that the parents should be starving. If the parent is not in a starving state, naturally he is not going to send and no parent in India would send his child with an empty stomach or half-filled stomach to the school. Such is the fondness with which the parents are rearing their children in India. Then, what is the meaning of these children being accustomed to sambar bath when they are usually given at home ragi or maize in the morning and when their family condition is below the economic level? Why should the Government say that all these children should get themselves accustomed to this luxury? Did the parents claim anything as midday meals for the sake of sending children to schools? Do the Government think that on account of the midday meal, the attendance in schools would improve? Government introduced compulsion. They threatened that they would fine parents from Re. 0-8-0 to Rs. 7-8-0 if they did not send their children to the school. Well, the parents even then did not send

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their education to the schools because education of the present day is found and was found by them long ago, some 70 or 100 years ago, as not suited to the daily needs of life in India. No amount of compulsion was able to bring these children. No amount of promise of midday meal can bring those children. Unless the content of education is modified and unless these children are kept in the school only for two hours a day to facilitate their help to their parents at home and in the fields, the attendance in the schools will not improve. So, the provision of 2.5 crores for midday meals can be cut out. When the teachers are starving, when their stomachs are pinching, and when they are not able to finance their budget, there is no necessity for making a provision for free midday meals for children. By putting all these items together, 14.4 crores for opening of additional classes, 2.45 crores for training teachers, 3.51 crores for the supply of books and slates and 2.5 crores for midday meals, we find that nearly Rs. 22 crores can be had for the amelioration of the teachers. The question may be put 'How is it that you are so very selfish? You say that even children should not be given midday meals, children should not be given books and slates and 22 out of the 38 crores provided in the Plan should go to the teachers straightway.' Is it not the duty of the Government to see that the teacher who is employed for the purpose of educating the children is given a living wage? We do not want anything more. If the teacher is to be given a living wage, it costs only Rs. 16 crores. As I submitted to the hon. Members of this House, the recurring expenditure in respect of this for each year of the Second Five-Year Plan is a little over Rs. 3 crores and for the total number of five years, the total provision would be about 16 crores of rupees. Cannot the Government provide Rs. 16 crores out of the Rs. 38 crores given in the Plan? So, I would humbly request the Government to see that the teachers are given a living wage under the Second Five-Year Plan itself. Now, we find that this is a period when the Government are spending thousands of crores on national development. If the Government realize that it is only through the teacher that the nation develops, if the Government realize that the future of this State is to have redemption only through the undivided attention of the teacher to the children, if the Government realize the fact that but for the advice and control of the teacher in the schools, there would be hartals everyday and confusion in hartals, and much disorder would be created by the students on such occasions; and if they realize that the teacher is shaping the future society so as to consist of loyal, patriotic and selfless citizens, they must provide these Rs. 16 crores for the salaries of teachers under the Second Five-Year Plan. If they do not do that, I think it will be doing something against the interests of the nation, against the interests of the Congress and against the interests of the party which they represent in the Treasury Benches."

(Mr. Chairman resumed the Chair at this stage.)

* SRI T. M. DAIVASIKHAMANI ACHARIAR :—" Mr. Chairman, Sir, it gives me great pleasure to follow the discussion

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which has been so ably initiated by my friend Mr. Purushothama Mudaliar. In the first place, it is not necessary for me at this stage to discuss or to go into the figures of the Second Five-Year Plan because it is still in the embryo stage. This Government wants about Rs. 340 crores but only Rs. 200 crores have been provided and it seems bargains are being made for at least another 25 crores.

“ Sir, I am sure as the figure is behind our target, the other things will automatically follow and all schemes have to be curtailed and pushed through. I have got great confidence in the ability of the Finance Minister and that he can bring any Government to his views. Our Odysseus knows too well how and when to bend his bow. With that hope, Sir, I am quite confident that the Second Five-Year Plan will be a great success. Somewhere out of Madras and in Madras, the present administration is rather found fault with and belittled. I deplore such irresponsible and malignant talks, Sir. The best proof for the present administration is the grand success it has achieved in raising a loan of Rs. 7 crores when people expressed a doubt that this huge amount cannot be realized by the Government because it is not so very popular nor would it create confidence in the people. But, Sir, here is a proof beyond doubt—‘The proof of the pudding is in the eating.’ Therefore, this grand success speaks very eloquently about the efficient and successful administration of the present Government headed by Hon. Sri Kamaraja Nadar.

“ Sir, coming to the next point, it has been said that the Five-Year Plan is not providing all the facilities and the amenities for the people of this welfare State. I say, Sir, it is very difficult at the initial stage to make a very huge scheme at once successful. We must move gradually, step by step, point by point, and then we will have to collect all our resources and see how best those resources can be utilized.

“ Sir, it has been pointed out by my friend, Mr. Purushothama Mudaliar that our Government should take the initiative in formulating a scheme for the expansion of all industries as well as promotion of art and sculpture. I entirely agree with him. It is high time that the indigenous arts and sculpture must be revitalised. At least in the Second Five-Year Plan, the Government should do something for the revitalising of the architecture and arts of our country. Our temples should not be allowed to go to rack and ruin. It has been said by the Hon. Minister for Industries that a school for the promotion of Sculpture and arts of our land would be started at Mahabalipuram. I am glad that the Hon. Minister has conceded it as proper that a school for the promotion of our sculpture and arts should be started. The art of temple building and the staphis are having a languishing death. I may differ from him only about the place which has been chosen for starting such a school. The first thing is Mahabalipuram is not centrally situated. And secondly there are not very great examples of combined art there except some ‘old rathams and cave temples

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belonging to Pallava age'. In my opinion the best place wherein instruction on our arts and silpa could be best provided is 'Madurai' which has got not only examples of our ancient architecture but also the architecture of recent periods. It can impart much educative value as an ancient example. With due deference to my friend Sri T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai, I might say that if, for any reason Madurai has been found unsuitable the next best place is Chidambaram. It is a great centre of sculptural attainment and has made its mark as a great seat of piety, culture and learning as well.

"Sir, I shall now come to my pet subject of 'Industries'. A considerable sum has been provided in the Plan for the improvement of industries as a whole. How much is going to be spent on cottage industries, and how much on the improvement of our handicrafts is not known. Our industries must be given a rebirth and reorientation in this country. Our Government have long neglected them. Perhaps it might be known to hon. Members that an exhibition of Indian Handicrafts is going to be held shortly in Moscow. When these people, I mean the Russians, who are far away from our land, evince such a keen interest in our handicrafts, is it not just and reasonable that we should encourage our crafts and those who are engaged in making these handicrafts so wide known and who, for want of encouragement of their art, are now literally dying for want of food. Therefore, when Westerners have come to admire our arts, it is high time that we embarked on a programme of encouraging our handicrafts. And now, I come to the subject of 'major industries'.

"It is now said by Government that before embarking on any big project in regard to major industries, they are waiting the result of Neiveli Project. As I expressed more than once on the floor of this House, I am not very hopeful as to its success. This is something like waiting for the tides of the ocean to subside, before getting oneself satisfied with a bath. We must be doing something; we must be going on and on keeping our minds alert and our vision must be clearly upon the advancement of major industries. It has been said that the Centre would look after the expansion of major industries, viz., the erection of steel plant and other things, on an all-India basis. Even though Salem is full of iron ores and is suitable for being chosen as a site for the erection of a steel plant, it has been said by a prominent spokesman of the Government of India that, due to the absence of coal, erection of a steel plant in Salem is not feasible. The absence of coal in our State is not a serious impediment. With 80 lakhs of rupees spent on the Neiveli Project in the hope of finding coal, we might have as well inundated our State with imported coal. Per contra, we might have erected a Third Atomic Nuclear Reactor at a cost of Rs. 30 lakhs, exclusively for promoting the power supply of the State. We have now come to the Atomic age. Sir, I may in this connexion give an instance how steel industry was flourishing during the days of the East India Company. When they came across

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with iron ores, they collected it and with the help of some indigenous mode, they made a very fine sort of steel of three qualities. It stood the pressure of rollers. They knew next to nothing about coal or electric energy. When such is the case, I ask, Sir, how could there be any objection to the starting of a steel plant at Salem exclusively for the State. At a place, somewhere in Ponneri taluk large quantities of iron ores and copper deposits are available. My friend who is employed in the Industries Department told me that these ores are collected in sacks and are sold at Rs. 10 per sack. There are a lot of buyers for these ores, who without knowing the commercial and industrial value, sell them at cheaper rates. When many commercial undertakings are possible, and when such huge quantities of iron ore are available in our State, why should our Government wait for the results of experiments at Neiveli or depend upon Central Government? Why can't they make use of some industrialists or experts, who could devise ways and means of producing the best quality steel from these iron ores? I believe the iron industry will flourish in our State, if we could make use of the large deposits of iron ore with the advice of those who are considered to be hereditary and practical experts in the field. For the manufacture of scientific equipment for industrial purposes, it is no use for this Government to wait and wait for scientific experts a long time. With the available resources, we must be able to exploit the industrial possibilities of establishing a steel plant in South India.

"I shall now refer to a portion of my friend's speech. He said that libraries must be started and they must be subsidized. I can go a step further and say that there must be a mobile van service going from village to village, with books, clothing and food. Then, my friend, Sri G. Krishnamoorthi referred with his usual eloquence to the needs of teachers. Sir, I am not going to harp on the same tune. Enough has been said and pleaded on behalf of the teachers. In our endeavour to benefit the teachers we should not stand in the way of free supply of midday meal to school children. It is sinful. I only say that under the Second Five-Year Plan Government, taking the needs of all sorts of people into consideration, and respecting the views put forward by the representatives of the different sections of our people both in the Assembly and in this House, should make our land a really welfare State.

"Therefore, Sir, with all the emphasis at my command, I strongly plead that the industrial regeneration of the State must take place as early as possible; all the industrialists—cottage industrialists, handloom weavers, etc.—must be made to have at least a single full meal a day for which they are still hankering and are thirsting. Therefore, with these observations, I beg to resume my seat, Sir."

MR. CHAIRMAN :—"The House will now adjourn and meet again tomorrow afternoon at 3 o'clock."

The House then adjourned.